With Compliments

The Rural District Council of Misterton.

with

ANNUAL REPORT for 1920

—OF—

E. J. BRUCE, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health for the Misterton Rural District.

North Leverton,
Retford,
April 13th, 1921.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you, as Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Misterton, the Annual Report as to the Health and Sanitary condition of the district for the year 1920.

The population of the district is estimated at 3688 for both birth rate and death rate.

The area of the district is 14,268 acres, and the density of the population roughly 3·5 acres per person.

The number of inhabited houses is approximately 1000 giving an average of 3·6 person per house.

The villages in the district are :—Misterton, West Stockwith, Walkeringham, Beckingham, Saundby, Bole and West Burton.

The Waterways are :—The river Trent, the Idle, and the Chesterfield Canal.

The district is partly agricultural and partly industrial. The villages in which industrial works are carried on are Misterton and Beckingham. At Misterton are Chemical Works and Copper precipitating works, giving employment to a large number of people.

There are also engineering works, boat building works and makers of Sheep dip.

The soil is chiefly clay, with subsoil red marl and in some parts waterstone and gypsum are found.

The crops are chiefly Cereal and Roots, with a large area of grass land. Celery and Potatoes are cultivated largely in some parts of the district.

VITAL STATISTICS.

111 Births were registered in the district during the year, namely 57 males and 54 females. Of this number 7 were illegitimate children—5 males and 2 females. This gives a birthrate for the year of 30·09 per 1000, compared with 18·94 in 1919 and 17·41 in 1918.

39 deaths were registered during the year as occurring in the district. This is equivalent to a deathrate of 10·57 per 1000. To this number must be added 6 deaths of persons belonging to the district, but who died in institutions outside the district. This makes a total of 45—22 males and 23 females. This gives the corrected death rate of 12·20 per 1000, compared with 13·53 in 1919 and 19·69 in 1918.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age was 7 :—4 males and 3 females. This gives an infantile mortality of 63·006 per 1000 children born compared with 100 in 1919 and 81·08 in 1918.

Only 2 deaths were registered from diarrhœa.

The causes of deaths (all ages) were :—

	Males.	Females.
Influenza	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	—	2
Tubercular Meningitis ...	—	2
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	1	—
Cancer and Malignant disease ...	3	3
Cardiac disease	—	1
Bronchitis	2	2
Pneumonia	3	2
Diarrhœa	2	—
Puerperal Fever	—	1
Congenital debility ...	2	2
Violence	1	—
Suicide	1	—
Other defined diseases ...	7	7
	22 M.	23 F.

Grand Total 45.

Two inquests were held during the year.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

9 cases of infectious diseases were notified :—

Scarlet Fever	7
Puerperal Fever	1
Pneumonia	1

The cases were distributed as follows :—

Scarlet Fever :—Misterton 2 ; West Stockwith 3 ; Walkeringham 2.

Puerperal Fever :—Beckingham 1.

Pneumonia :—Bole 1.

6 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

There was one death from Puerperal Fever.

No cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply in some parts of the district is bad, especially at Misterton and West Stockwith where the chief source of supply is from the river Trent and the Chesterfield canal. In other parts of the district the water supply is derived from rainwater and wells. The water from the wells is very hard, on account of the nature of the soil through which it percolates.

MILK SUPPLY.

The milk supply of the district is good. The cowsheds and other places connected with the production and sale of milk have been inspected from time to time by the Sanitary Inspector and found clean.

MEAT and BREAD.

The slaughter-houses and bake-houses in the district have been periodically inspected and found clean and well drained, with sufficient air space.

CHILD WELFARE.

The centre for Child Welfare was open 43 times during the year. The number of medical consultations 91, and the number of new attendances 26.

The total number of attendances at the centre by the welfare visitor were 318 made up as follows :—

To expectant mothers ...	12
To infants	128
To children	178

The total number of home visits was 2655 made up as follows :—

First visit to infants	273	First visit to children	79
Revisits to infants	918	Revisits to children	1068
First visit to expectant mothers ...	32	Revisits to expectant mothers ...	20

Other visits were :—

Measles	69
Whooping Cough ...	35
Opthalmia	14
Still Births	13
Diarrhœa	3
Other Ailments	120
Death Enquiries	11

The quantity of dried milk sold at cost price was ...	195 lbs.
The quantity of dried milk given free of cost was ...	34½ lbs.
Quantity of Virol sold at cost price	45 lbs.
Quantity of Virol supplied free	5 lbs.

HOUSING. (Private Enterprise).

The number of new houses built in 1920 was 7. One house was converted into 2 cottages. The reading room at the Stockwith end of Misterton is being converted into a cottage.

There is one bungalow building, and plans passed for 3 more.

Appended is the Report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. BRUCE, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Inspector's Annual Report, 1920.

There have been two cases where the drinking water was poluted with Sewage; these have been remedied and one New Tub Closet built, also one Privy and Ashpit built.

Several notices have been given where Drains were blocked and the nuisances have been abated.

All the open Sewers have been cleaned out throughout the District.

The Council has purchased an Ambulance for conveying patients to the Isolation Hospital.

C. STRAWSON.

Sanitary Inspector.

Caldicotts, Printers, "News" Office, Gainsbro'